

Amendments to the Claims:

1-21. (Canceled)

22. (New) A hood for a vehicle, comprising:

a wall containing a first material; and

an inner panel containing a second material more brittle than the first material, wherein the inner panel comprises ribs.

23. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein at least one of the ribs is planar.

24. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein at least two of the ribs are perpendicular to each other.

25. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein at least two of the ribs are parallel to each other.

26. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein at least one of the ribs is perpendicular to the wall.

27. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein the ribs extend over only part of the surface of the inner panel.

28. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein the ribs extend into at least one zone of the inner panel chosen from among:

a front half;

a rear half; and

a front lateral edge zone.

29. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein at least some of the ribs extend along a general direction perpendicular to a direction of the hood edge closest to said ribs.

30. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein at least some of the ribs are inclined with respect to a longitudinal direction of the vehicle.

31. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein at least some of the ribs each consist of a single planar rib wall.

32. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein at least some of the ribs have free, upper end longitudinal edges.

33. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein at least some of the ribs form open, mutually continuous cells that are upwardly open.

34. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein at least one of the ribs is not in contact with the wall.

35. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein the inner panel comprises at least one guard.

36. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 35, wherein the at least one guard is of elongate shape along a rectilinear axis parallel to a longitudinal direction of the vehicle.

37. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 35, wherein the at least one guard has an elongate shape along a non-rectilinear axis.

38. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 35, wherein the at least one guard is not in contact with the wall.

39. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 35, wherein the at least one guard comprises a guard wall locally parallel to the wall of the hood.

40. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 39, wherein the guard wall extends on a side of the guard that is closest to the wall of the hood.

41. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein the first material contains a metal such as steel or aluminium.

42. (New) The hood in accordance with claim 22, wherein the second material is chosen from the group consisting of

- a thermodur obtained by sheet molding compound;
- a thermodur obtained by bulk molding compound; and
- a fiber-reinforced thermoplastic.